



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

MEETING OF THE CENTRAL DIVISION.

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the CENTRAL DIVISION of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA was held at Iowa City, under the auspices of the State University of Iowa, December 28, 29, 30, 1921.

The register showed an attendance of one hundred and twenty-five. Institutions represented by three or more: State University of Iowa, 28; Chicago, 10; Wisconsin, 6; Minnesota, 6; Northwestern, 5; Grinnell and University of Illinois, 4 each; Columbia College (Dubuque), Carleton, Missouri, Oklahoma, Cornell College, 3 each.

The usual fifth session of the meeting was omitted and the program was condensed, making all the four sessions of practically equal importance.

FIRST SESSION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Instead of the usual general session on the first day, the Division met at 2:30 p. m. in three sections as follows:

DANTE COMMEMORATION

An elaborate program in commemoration of the six-hundredth anniversary of the death of Dante Alighieri was prepared by the Chairman, Ernest H. Wilkins, of the University of Chicago. In his unavoidable absence, F. C. L. van Steenderen, of Lake Forest College, presided over the group. Charles E. Young acted as Secretary. This session was perhaps the best attended of all. The following papers were read:

A. "Dante, the Poet." By Dean John S. Nollen, of Grinnell College.

[The impression the *Commedia* makes upon a modern reader as a work of literary art, as to its imaginative, emotional and intellectual qualities.

Imaginative values: unity, solidity, consistency of structure unexampled in epic poetry; concreteness of completely visualized structure of universe; vivid sense of time and place; new unity of action—not unity of active hero, as in the epic, but unity of observing hero, as in later picaresque fiction; not an indifferent observer like the *pícaro*, but the poet as hero; each event dramatized by character bound by ties of historical, political or personal interest

to hero, responding accurately to particular idea with which it is associated in rigidly organized world order that governs settings and action; meanwhile poet-hero himself passing through successive stages of action in own experience; thus, fivefold vital consistency of structure. Intensity and range of imaginative power—from highest ideality to crassest realism. Literary use of the grotesque. Imaginative devices for realizing the ineffable glories of Paradise, particularly ascending scale of light. Value of Allegory and predominant use of Symbol.

Emotional values—particularly humor: didactic satire, polemic irony, extensive use of homely popular humor in proverbs, playful allusions, comparisons; word-plays and *bisticci*: humor in rhyme (compare Browning). Bold comedy, bordering upon farce, masterly scene of Malebolge and slapstick comedy of Adamo and Sinon. Humor used artistically as relief from hatred, poignant sympathy, and ecstasy.

Intellectual values: solid warp of clear and coherent thought; congruence—sincerity—nobility—simplicity—artistic use of contrast and climax.

Ruskin did not exaggerate in attributing to Dante "perfect balance of imaginative, moral and intellectual faculties, all at their highest."]

B. "The Genesis of the Divine Comedy—A Comparison with the Aeneid." By Professor Angelo Lipari, University of Wisconsin.

[Virgil's *Aeneid* is a real source of the 'Divine Comedy.' Dante's general conception of the Lower World is essentially that of Virgil. Avernus and Tartarus, in the *Aeneid*, correspond respectively to the first five circles in Inferno and the City of Dis; while Elysium has its counterpart in the Limbo. But Dante is not a common imitator: he frequently rises above his Master, and sometimes seems to vie with him, receiving from his ideas and images only a certain impulse to new and entirely original creations of his own.]

C. "The Internationalism of Dante." By Professor George Irving Dale, of Washington University.

[Dante's conception of a Universal Empire is based on his philosophy, the central point of which concerns the two ends of man; his happiness in this world and in the world to come. It is every man's duty to contribute something for the world's good, to labor for posterity. This is an incentive for world harmony, for man's best work is done in times of peace. Theorizing in the abstract, he proves to his own satisfaction the possibility of and justification for a Universal Empire. Dante as an internationalist was an apostle of that temporal joy which is expressed in terms of intellectual productiveness.]

D. "Heterodoxy in Dante's Purgatory." By Professor Alfonso de Salvio, of Northwestern University.

[Dante's conception of the nature and purpose of pains of Purgatory differs from teaching and practice of the Church. Not only brings Purgatory into the light but diversified the form of punishment and emphasized its purpose of purification rather than of satisfaction. For him only "i buoni preghi," the prayers of the innocent and the tears of widows avail.

Contrary to belief of the Church, Dante holds that all souls traversed Purgatory before reaching the presence of God. Moreover, he took liberty with some of the most cherished sacraments by saving Manfred and Cato the Younger. He disagreed with Aquinas when he made the prayers of those in Purgatory ascend continually on behalf of their friends on earth.

Apologists claim Dante not open to criticism because indulgences for the dead were not a *de fide* doctrine in his time, and that he offered no open protest against the doctrines which he seems to condemn. Answer: it was not necessary for a doctrine to be approved by a general council to be binding, and that certain beliefs are studiously ignored by him is tantamount to their repudiation.]

E. "Some Aspects of Dante's Poetic Art." By Professor Ruth Shepard Phelps, University of Minnesota.

[How does the native language endowment of the English reader of Italian affect his aesthetic appreciation of Dante? I. *Form*. Of the essentials to form in great poetry, diction (1) is of doubtful appreciation by a foreigner; but in respect of movement (2) and concision (3), it is suggested that the English reader gets even intenser effects than the Italian, because, owing to the suppression of subject pronouns, and the appending of objects, Italian words tend to be longer and fewer. Accepting Adelaide Crapsey's theory that movement in verse is more rapid where the use of polysyllables is freer, when her percentages for certain English poets are compared with those for Dante a striking difference appears. Also when Dante is compared in this respect with other Italian poets, the difference is considerable, thus suggesting that Dante, as compared with other Italian poets, made conscious artistic use of polysyllables. II. *Content*. The modern reader, after suffering humiliations at the hands of modern science and psychology, and from the attempts of modern sociology to classify and average him, finds relief in Dante's constant insistence on the importance and interest of the single soul.]

F. "Dante in English Literature." By Professor R. E. Neil Dodge, University of Wisconsin.

[An attempt to throw into relief some few of the more important phenomena of Dante's career in English letters from Chaucer to the present day.]

It was voted to continue the Italian section as a part of the 1922 program and to continue E. H. Wilkins as chairman.

ENGLISH PAPERS

Chairman: Professor W. F. Bryan, of Northwestern University.

A. "Politie and Ethic Virtues in Shakespeare's Chronicle Plays." By Professor Charles Read Baskerville, of the University of Chicago.

This paper was discussed by H. S. V. Jones, Hardin Craig, and H. B. Lathrop.

B. "Spenser and the Aristotelian Tradition." By Professor H. S. V. Jones, of the University of Illinois.

C. "The Vicious Mole of Nature in Hamlet." By Professor Maurice Baudin, of Miami University.

This paper was discussed by A. C. L. Brown and G. B. Woods.

D. "Nature-Imagery in Milton's *Paradise Lost*." By Professor Arthur L. Keith, of Carleton College.

Attendance at session: 45.

GERMAN PAPERS

Chairman: Professor Bert J. Vos, of Indiana University.

A. "Goethe and the Ku Klux Klan." By Professor James Taft Hatfield, of Northwestern University.

This paper was discussed by H. B. Lathrop and Louis De Vries.

B. "Goethe's Attitude toward the French Romantic Drama." By Dr. Walter Wadeuhl, of the University of Pittsburgh.

This paper was discussed by J. T. Hatfield and Martin W. Storn.

C. "Herder's Contribution to the Science of Language." By Professor Samuel Kroesch, of the University of Minnesota.

This paper was discussed by Professors Vos and Hatfield.

Attendance at session: 30.

At six p. m. the members of the modern language departments of the State University of Iowa entertained the visitors at dinner.

At eight p. m. the members assembled at the Triangle Club and heard with pleasure the following addresses:

ADDRESS OF WELCOME: President W. A. Jessup, of the State University of Iowa.

ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL DIVISION: Professor Arthur C. L. Brown, of Northwestern University. Subject, "What to do next?"¹

This was followed by a brief business session at which the following committees were appointed by the Chairman:

On New Officers: Karl Young, Chairman; C. B. Wilson, H. Craig, A. Coleman, Colbert Searles.

On Time and Place of Next Meeting: B. J. Vos, Chairman; S. H. Bush, H. S. V. Jones, W. F. Bryan, C. R. Baskervill.

On Resolutions: Ruth S. Phelps, Chairman; A. H. R. Fairchild, Oscar Burkhard.

¹ For the full text of this Address see p. lxxxvii.

SECOND SESSION, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 9:30 A. M.

Meetings for the discussion of Research topics.

The leading papers in these conferences dealt with problems of present interest in a particular field in all literatures, or discussed fields of work that might be undertaken by groups of scholars. The discussion brought out what other scholars are doing and how they may co-operate.

I ROMANTICISM

"The Romantic Movement in all Modern Literatures."

Paper: Professor Richard Foster Jones, Washington University.

The formal discussion was led by Charles E. Young and Martin Schütze.

Less formal discussion: A. Coleman.

Leader for 1922: Charles E. Young, and the following committee: Arthur C. L. Brown and Martin Schütze.

II RENAISSANCE

"The Renaissance Movement in all Literatures."

Paper: Professor Hardin Craig, of the State University of Iowa.

Formal Discussion: H. S. V. Jones, Karl Young, Robert L. Ramsay, Colbert Searles, George Tyler Northup.

Less formal discussion: H. B. Lathrop.

Professor Craig was reelected leader for 1922.

III LINGUISTICS

"Historical Grammar and Linguistics."

Paper: Professor Henry Dexter Learned, of the University of Chattanooga. In his absence the paper was read by W. F. Bryan.

Formal discussion: Bert J. Vos, Thomas Albert Knott, William F. Bryan.

Less formal discussion: Hermann Almstedt, Samuel Kroesch, H. G. Thurnau and Arthur G. Bovée.

Professor Kroesch was elected leader for 1922.

The members of the Central Division were handsomely entertained at luncheon by the men of the State University of Iowa, at the Hotel Jefferson, at 12:30 p. m.

THIRD SESSION, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2:30 P. M.

**DEPARTMENTAL CONFERENCES ON INSTRUCTION
ENGLISH**

Chairman, Professor Karl Young, of the University of Wisconsin. *Acting Secretary*, Professor George Carver.

Papers were read as follows:

1. "The Sequence of Courses for Students Who Choose English as a Major Subject," by Professor A. H. R. Fairchild, University of Missouri,—an illuminating presentation of the lack of sequence prevailing in forty-two colleges and universities, followed by a suggestion that honor courses similar to those in use at Smith College be given more consideration.

2. In the place of the paper which was to have been read by Professor Joseph M. Thomas, University of Minnesota, Professor Warner Taylor, University of Wisconsin, spoke informally on the Freshman course there.

3. "The Introductory Course in English Literature," by Professor Franklyn B. Snyder, Northwestern University. The theme presented a suggestion that the emphasis in introductory courses in Literature be shifted from movements, tendencies, and influences, and placed upon men and books, in other words, from comment upon literature to literature itself.

4. "The Place of American Literature in the Curriculum," was to have been presented by Professor Frank W. Webster, Washington University. Owing to illness in his family he was unable to attend the meeting.

5. "The Study of the English Language as a Requirement," by Professor Thomas A. Knott, State University of Iowa. This paper presented an explanation of the course in the history of the English language that is required of all students at the State University of Iowa majoring in English or expecting a certificate to teach English.

Under the head of proposals for the work for 1922, Professor Knott suggested that the Section recommend to the general business meeting of the Division that the schedule for the second day of the meeting in 1922 be divided into four periods: 9 a. m., 10:30 a. m., 2 p. m. and 3:30 p. m.; that the programs of the German, Romance, and English Sections on Instruction be put into the 3:30 p. m. period; and that the other three periods be devoted to special group meetings for discussing co-operative plans for investigation in various fields. In this way the program of the second day might include three departmental meetings for the discussion of instruction and nine meetings for the discussion of research topics or fields. The suggestion was put in the form of a motion and unanimously carried.

Franklyn B. Snyder was elected Chairman, and H. W. Robbins Secretary for 1922.

Attendance: 42.

GERMAN

Chairman: Professor A. M. Charles, Earlham College. In his absence Professor Charles Bundy Wilson acted as chairman.

Secretary: Professor Edward H. Lauer, State University of Iowa.

The following papers were read and discussed:

A. "Aims, Materials and Methods in the Teaching of Second Year College German." By Professor H. C. Thurnau of the University of Kansas.

B. "Shall the Old Order Change?" By Professor O. C. Burkhard, of the University of Minnesota.

Papers A and B were discussed together and a lively interchange of ideas resulted. Among those taking part were Professors Hatfield, Vos, Lauer, Gould, Pearson, Brooks, Jente, and the readers of the papers.

C. "Appreciation—Ein tieferes sich Besinnen." Professor Hermann Almstedt, of the University of Missouri.

The paper was discussed by Professors Keyes and Thurnau.

D. "A Method for the German Noun." By Professor Charles R. Keyes, of Cornell College.

The paper was discussed by Professors Vos, Kroesch, and Brooks.

The group elected Professor O. C. Burkhard Chairman, and Professor Richard Jente Secretary for 1922.

Attendance: 21, representing 12 institutions.

ROMANCE LANGUAGES

Chairman: Professor Algernon Coleman, University of Chicago.

Secretary: Olive Kay Martin, State University of Iowa.

Program:

A. "Teacher Training Through Participation," By Laura B. Johnson of the High School of the University of Wisconsin.

The paper was discussed by Mr. A. G. Bovee and Professors DeSalvio, Charles Young, and Seymour, (University of Illinois).

B. "The Phonetic Alphabet for French." By Professor C. E. Parmenter of the University of Chicago.

The paper was discussed by Messrs. Bovee, Lipari, Searles, Charles Young, Newcomer, and Zdanowicz. A motion to leave the International Alphabet as it is was adopted.

C. "A New Venture in French Composition." By Professor Harry Kurz of Knox College.

This paper was discussed by Professor A. Coleman.

D. Report on the Resolution on Foreign Study (See Proceedings 1920, p. xxxiv). Professor Charles P. Wagner, Chairman of the committee, presented the results from two sets of questionnaires sent to heads of Romance Language Departments and Deans of Graduate Colleges, and offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, that candidates for the doctorate in Romance Languages should be urged to spend at least one year, or the equivalent, in study abroad; and that whenever possible, such study should be made an integral part of the preparation for the doctor's degree and for the career of teacher of Romance languages and literatures.

Professor Bert E. Young spoke on this resolution.

1. Professor Coleman read a paper prepared by Professor C. E. Anibal of Indiana University on "Graduate Work in Spain."

2. Elizabeth McPike, of the University of Chicago, discussed unfavorably the value of scholarships for graduate study.

Professor B. E. Young offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

That the Romance Section establish a permanent Committee on Foreign Study, consisting of five members, to be appointed annually by the Chairman of the Section. It shall be the duty of this committee to keep in touch with foreign institutions of higher education, libraries, museums, etc., particularly concerning the facilities for advanced study and research in the Romance languages and literatures, and to report annually to this Section, with such recommendations as the committee may deem to be proper.

The chairman named the following committee: B. E. Young, E. C. Hills, Kenneth McKenzie, Hugh A. Smith, Charles P. Wagner.

Attendance: 43.

Officers for 1922: Chairman, Ralph E. House; Secretary, Harry Kurz.

At eight p. m., Dec. 29, the Division was given a smoker at the Triangle Club.

At ten p m. members interested in the study of Molière met in the Triangle Club and discussed plans for a tercentenary celebration. Professor Zdanowicz was elected chairman and Professor Bush secretary, for the meeting of 1922, and were instructed to prepare a program.

FOURTH SESSION, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 9:00 A. M.

BUSINESS MEETING

The business meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the Division, Professor A. C. L. Brown.

The Secretary of the Division, Professor Bert E. Young, made a brief report. He spoke of the vigorous policy of the general Secretary and called attention to the necessity of

increasing the membership of the Association in view of the ambitious programs of publication for the future.

A brief report from Professor W. G. Hale, *Chairman*, of the Joint Committee on Grammatical Nomenclature was received, as follows:

On behalf of the Joint Committee on Grammatical Nomenclature, I beg to report that the work is within a few months of completion, and to ask for the continuance of the representative of the Modern Language Association upon the Committee.

I had hoped to report that the work was done. That is true of the revision, which is ready for the printer; but the index is taking more time than was expected.

Upon motion it was voted to continue Professor E. H. Wilkins as our representative on this committee.

The Committee on Resolutions, through its Chairman, Professor Ruth S. Phelps, presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we express our sincere appreciation of the hospitality extended to us, as members of the Central Division of the Modern Language Association, by the State University of Iowa; that we thank the president and faculty of this university and the members of the local committee (Professors S. H. Bush, Hardin Craig, T. A. Knott, Henning Larsen, E. H. Lauer, E. N. S. Thompson, C. B. Wilson, C. E. Young) for the generous welcome and gracious courtesy accorded us at the twenty-sixth meeting of the Central Division.

The Committee on Time and Place of Next Meeting, through its Chairman, Professor Bert J. Vos, reported that invitations had been received for the meeting of 1922, from Washington University, from Carleton College, and from Chicago and Northwestern Universities. The Committee recommended:

1. That, in accordance with the desire expressed by the convention of 1920, the next meeting of the Central Division be held at Chicago.

2. That, in order that our Association may feel at entire liberty to meet in Chicago whenever the best interests of the Association seem to demand it, the officers of the Division be instructed to make such arrangements for the entertainment of the members as will involve no draft upon the hospitality of the local universities.

The recommendations of the Committee were adopted.

The Committee on Nomination of Officers, through its Chairman, Professor Karl Young, presented its report. The Committee nominated Professor William A. Nitze for Chairman of the Division for 1922, and Professor Bert E. Young for Secretary. The Committee offered also the following resolution:

That the Executive Committee of the Central Division be enlarged to a membership of seven persons.

Under this resolution the Committee recommended the following as members of the Executive Committee for 1922, in addition to the Chairman and the Secretary: Hermann Almstedt, A. C. L. Brown, Tom Peete Cross, B. J. Vos, C. D. Zdanowicz.

The new provision was designed to give a more continuous working body and to enable the Division to profit by the experience of its former chairmen.

The report was adopted *in toto*.

Professor Baskervill presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

In view of the fact that the British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale do not receive regularly the dissertations and other research publications of our American universities; and

That the large number of American students in Europe frequently need to consult these works and could consult them most conveniently at these two libraries; and

That the placing of such publications at these libraries would render them accessible to many foreign students who might otherwise not see them, and would thus call attention to the results of American research

Resolved, That the Central Division of the Modern Language Association recommends that the research publications of American institutions, which are distributed to various libraries by exchange or as gifts, be regularly sent free to the British Museum and Bibliothèque Nationale; and

As members of the Association we pledge our influence to secure the uniform adoption of this procedure among American institutions.

The Secretary presented several resolutions that had been sent in to him, asking the Division to indorse a change in the meetings of the Association.

The first resolution favored a meeting of the whole Association in joint session every year instead of every four years as at present.

The second favored meeting in joint session every other year instead of every four years as at present.

The third advocated that the Association meet as a whole biennially at some central point and biennially in regional divisions, to be known as the Eastern, Central, Southern, Pacific, etc.

After discussion, the first two resolutions were defeated, and the third was referred to the Executive Committee.

The Division passed to the consideration of Research Groups in its annual programs. Opinion was by no means unanimous in favor of the extension of this system, though the general sentiment was that the method as used by the Division at this meeting had been a success.

After some ardent discussion of the plan in general, sentiment seemed to favor the division of the program of the second day as proposed by the English Conference on Instruction (see minute of conference above).

As to the content of the research group programs, opinion favored the memorandum of Professor Knott, as follows:

That the programs of the Research Groups should open up new problems and new fields of problems, rather than present papers which are final solutions of small and explicit problems. It is not intended to imply that all explicit papers should be excluded, but only to encourage the presentation of suggestive and stimulating addresses.

These recommendations were referred to the Executive Committee.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

The business meeting was followed by several brief sessions at 11 a. m. for the reading and discussion of papers.

EARLIER ROMANCE

Chairman: Professor Casimir Zdanowicz, of the University of Wisconsin.

A. "The *Chanson de Roland* and Einhard's *Life of Charlemagne*." By Dr. Alexander Haggerty Krappe, of Indiana University.

B. "The Sources of the Story of *Sesostris et Timarète* in the *Grand Cyrus*." By Professor Francis B. Barton, of the University of Minnesota.

This paper was discussed by Professor Northup.

C. "Notes on the Authorship of the *Celestina*." By Professor Ralph E. House, of the University of Iowa.

This paper was discussed by Professor Northup.

D. "The Heroic Simile in the *Araucana* of Ercilla." By Professor George Irving Dale, of Washington University.

Attendance: 22.

LATER ROMANCE

Chairman: Professor S. H. Bush, of the State University of Iowa.

A. "Pierre Bayle and His Literary Taste." By Professor Henry Haxo, of the University of North Dakota.

B. "Main Currents of French Canadian Literature." By Charles Frederick Ward, of the State University of Iowa.

C. "Victor Hugo as a Poem Builder." By Professor Colbert Searles, of the University of Minnesota.

D. "La Poesia Campestre di Giovanni Pascoli." By Professor Antonio Marinoni, of the University of Arkansas.

Present: 25.

ENGLISH

Chairman: Professor H. S. V. Jones of the University of Illinois.

A. "The Late Emblem Books." By Professor Elbert N. S. Thompson, of the State University of Iowa.

This paper was discussed by Professor H. S. V. Jones.

B. "Middle English Stanzaic Versions of the Life of St. Anne." By Professor Roscoe E. Parker, of Des Moines University.

C. "The Irish Element in King Arthur and the Grail." By Professor Arthur C. L. Brown, of Northwestern University.

D. "Some Satirical Political Plays of the Restoration."
By Professor Virgil L. Jones, of the University of Arkansas.
Attendance: 31.

PAPERS PRESENTED BY TITLE ONLY

1. "Some Sources of *le Roman de la momie*." By Professor Algernon Coleman, of the University of Chicago.
2. "Spenser's Linguistics Again." By Mr. F. F. Covington, Jr., of the University of Texas.
3. "The Origin and Development of the Use of Capitals in West Scandinavian Writing." By Professor George T. Flom, of the University of Illinois.
4. "The Original Version of Torres Naharro's *Comedia Tinellaria*." By Professor Joseph E. Gillet, of the University of Minnesota.
5. "Interpretation of the First Canto of the *Divine Comedy*." By Professor Oliver M. Johnston, of Stanford University.
6. "The Possible Source of 'Annabel Lee.'" By Professor Robert Adger Law, of the University of Texas.